HOUSE BILL 562

By Jones

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 5, relative to the release of records by the department of children's services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-5-107(c)(4)(B), is amended by deleting the language:

When the department investigates a child fatality for abuse or neglect, the department shall release the following information, to the extent known, within five (5) business days of the fatality:

and substituting instead the following:

When the department investigates a child fatality or near fatality for abuse or neglect, the department shall release the following information, to the extent known, within five (5) business days of the fatality or near fatality:

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-5-107(c)(4)(D), is amended by deleting the first sentence of the subdivision and substituting instead the following:

Following the department's final classification of a child abuse or neglect near fatality, the department shall release the final disposition of the case and the full case file.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015, the public welfare requiring it.